Scholium generale.

Si cui numeri minus accurati videantur, qui ſparſim Characteribus ſpecioſis apponuntur, poterit ille facili opera, inventis per experimenta numeris qui propius ad verum accedant, motuum exempla ſupra poſita. vel Propoſitionum ipſarum vel Corollariorum ope, corrigere. Ignoſcat autem nobis Lector ingenuus, ſi per viam incedentibus nullis præcedentium veſtigiis triram, adeoque Erroribus in omnes partes opportunam, Humani aliquid forte acciderit.

Damus hanc veniam, petimuſque viciſſim.

IV. *An Account of the Sinking of three* Oaks *into the Ground, at* Manington *in the County of* Norfolk. *Communicated by* Peter Le Neve, *Eſq;* Norroy *King at Arms, and Fellow of the* Royal Society.

ON *Tueſday July* the 23*d*, of the laſt Year, 1717, in the Grounds, and near the Seat of Sir *Charles Potts*, Baronet, in the County of *Norfolk*, and Pariſh of *Manington*, (which lies about mid-way between the Market Towns of *Holt* and *Aylſham*, and about ſeven Miles from the Coaſt near *Cromer*) in the day time, to the great aſtoniſhment of thoſe that were preſent; firſt, one ſingle Oak, with the Roots and Ground about it, was ſeen to ſubſide and ſink into the Earth, and not long after, at about 40 Yards diſtance, two other Oaks that were contiguous, ſunk after the ſame manner, into a much larger Pit; being about 33 Foot Diameter, whereas the former is not fully 8. Theſe, as they ſunk, fell a-croſs, ſo that obſtructing each other, [illegible]

the Roots of one of them reaches the Bottom, whereas the firſt ſtands Perpendicular.

When the firſt Tree ſunk, it was obſerved, that the Water boyl'd up in the Hole; but upon the ſinking of the greater Pit, that Water drain'd off into it, from the former, which now continues dry. The depth thereof to the firm Bottom is nine Foot three Inches; and the Tree that ſtands upright in it, is 3 Foot 8 Inches in Girt, and its Trunk about 18 Foot long, half of which is now within the Pit. In the Bottom of the greater Pit, there is a Pool of Water about 8 Foot Diameter; whoſe Surface is 11 Foot 3 Inches below the Ground, and the Trees that are in this Pit, are much of the ſame length with the other, but ſomewhat ſmaller, the one being in Girt 3 Foot 5 Inches, the other but two Foot 9 Inches

The Soil on which theſe Trees grew, is Gravelly; but the Bottom is a Quick-ſand over a Clay, upon which there are Springs, which feed large Ponds adjoyning to Sir *Charles Potts*'s Houſe, at about a quarter of a Mile from theſe Holes.

The Nature of the Soil ſeems to afford us a reaſonable conjecture at the Cauſe of this odd accident, which ſome perhaps may be apt to reckon as a Prodigy. The Springs running over the Clay at the bottom of a Bed of very minute Sand, ſuch as your Quickſands uſually are, may reaſonably be ſuppoſed in many Ages to have waſht away the Sand, and to have thereby excavated a kind of Subterraneous Lake, over which theſe Trees grew: And the force of the Winds, on their Leaves and Branches, agitating their Roots, may well have looſened the Sand under them, and occaſioned it to fall in, more frequently than elſewhere: whereby in length of time the thin Bed of Gravel being only left, it might become unable to ſupport its own weight and that

that of the Trees it bore. That this is not a bare conjecture, may appear from the boyling up of the Water at firſt in the leſſer Hole, and its ſtanding in the bigger and lower. And if it ſhall be found that it was a very windy day whereon this accident happen'd, it will much add to the probability of this Solution.

An accident not unlike this lately happened in *Fleet-ſtreet, London*, by the defect of the arched Roof of a very deep Common-ſewer. The Earth gradually falling into the Sewer, was carried away by it, ſo as not to obſtruct the Water; and the continual tremour of the Ground, occaſioned by the conſtant paſſing of Carts and Coaches, by degrees ſhook down the Earth, ſo as to leave a very great Cavern, the Top whereof at length grew ſo very thin, that one day a weighty Cart having juſt paſt it, a great ſpace of the Pavement ſunk in, in the middle of the Street, not without hazard to a Coach then driving by.

V *A Rectification of the Motions of the five* Satellites *of* Saturn; *with ſome accurate Obſervations of them, made and Communicated by the Reverend Mr.* James Pound. R.S. Soc.

IT is now above thirty Years ſince that great Aſtronomer Mr. *Caſſini* communicated to the World his diſcovery of two new Satellites of *Saturn*, which made their number Five; and the account he gave of them to the *Royal Society*, (of which he was a Member) is to be ſeen in N° 187, of theſe Tranſactions. Much about the ſame time the excellent M. *Chriſtian Huygens* of *Zulichem*, made the Society a preſent of the Glaſſes of a Teleſcope